Radioactive Contamination Surveys



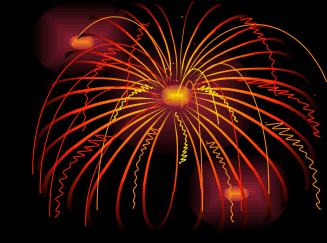
Radioactive Contamination Surveys

- Required by Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Material License, ARA and 10 CFR
- Proves the effectiveness of the organization's Radiation Safety Program's contamination control
- To protect the worker, public and environment

When Are Surveys Performed?

- Required:
 - 1. Quarterly, Monthly
 - 2. Shipments
 - 3. Disestablishing a RAM storage site
- Prior to receiving or forwarding RAM
- Incident response and recovery
- Whenever contamination is suspected

Preparing to survey



- Know what you are surveying for
- Collect enough survey material to complete the job
- Review previous surveys
- Know the area to survey

Survey Materials

- Metricel smears and sample bottles for Tritium (H3) and Nickel 63 (Ni63)
- Nucon smears for all other radionuclides
- Gloves
- Plastic bags
- Marking pen
- Survey maps

Performing survey

- Best practice is to use two to survey
- Survey least suspected contaminated area to most suspected area
- Survey high traffic areas and frequently handled items
- Survey suspect items and areas

Performing Survey (cont)

- Wear gloves
- Smear approximately 100 cm2 (4"x4")
- Record smear location
- Smear doors knobs, light switches, storage shelves, work spaces, floor, packages, cabinet handles, etc.
- Change gloves

Performing Survey (cont)

- Place survey samples in plastic bag and write date, location, name of surveyor and phone number on bag
- Place used gloves in plastic bag to await survey results
- Fill out Nucleonics Lab Analysis Request form

Performing Survey (cont)

- Attach the sample bag, survey sheet and analysis request form together
- Forward to Nucleoncis Lab for processing
- Review survey results upon receipt
- File completed survey package
- Dispose of gloves based on survey results

Reviewing Survey Results

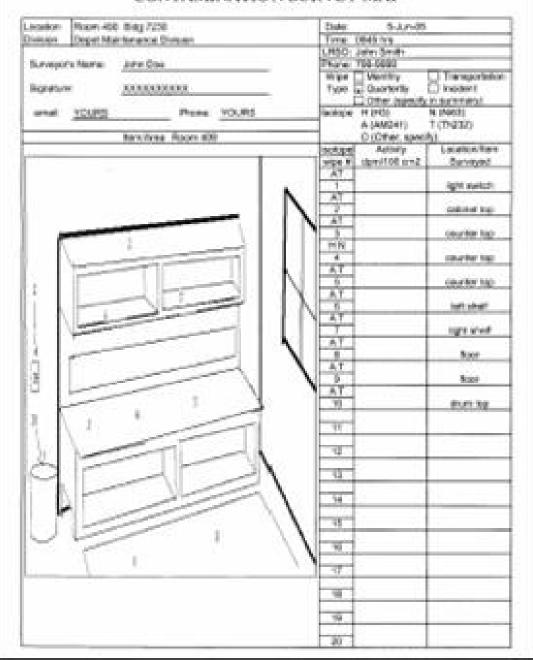
- Review lab analysis for activity levels for each smear
- For any levels exceeding established limits contact your supervisor and the RSO
- Complete the Survey Form by filling in the activity from the lab analysis report

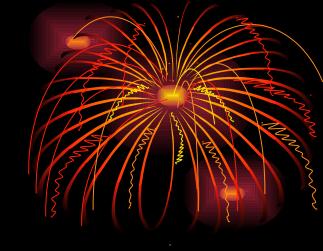
Reviewing Survey Results (Continued)

The Survey Map is a legal document

 File Survey Package for future reference and historical data

CONTAMINATION SURVEY MAP





Sample of Survey Map

WIPE TEST ANALYSIS REQUEST FORM

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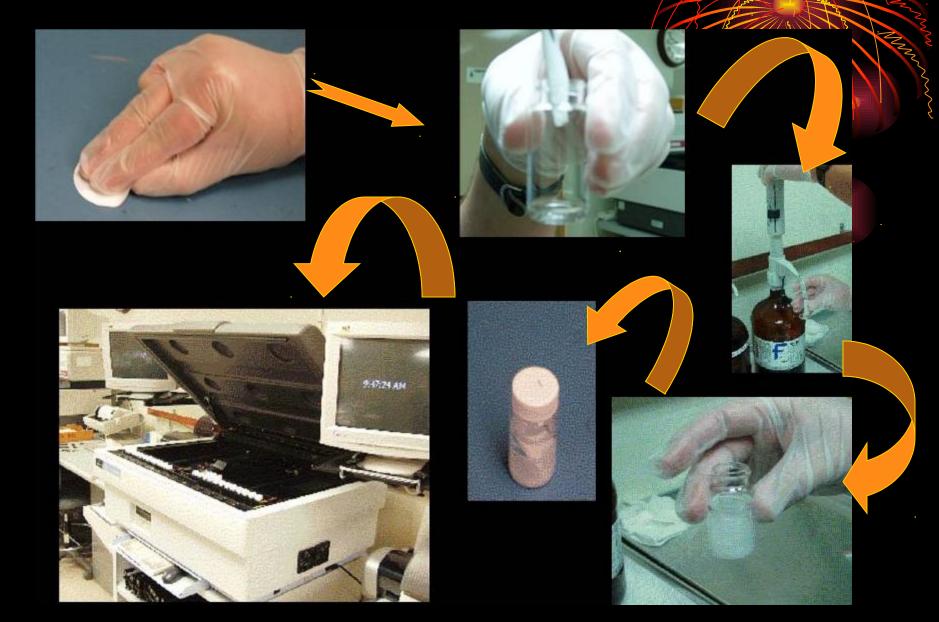
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Package sent to Nucleoni

- Samples
- •Lab Request

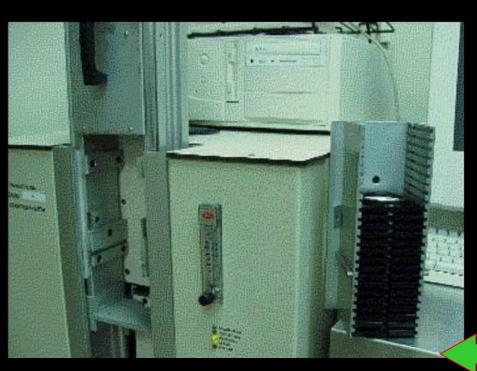
Processing for Tritium and Nickel

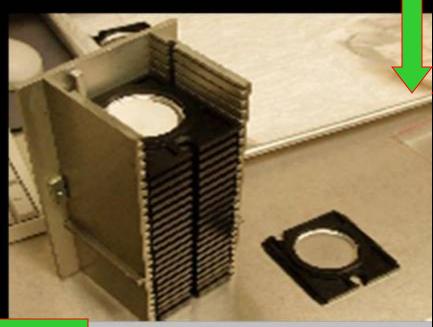


Processing Nucon Smears









DO NOT



Turn in nucon smears with excess material on them

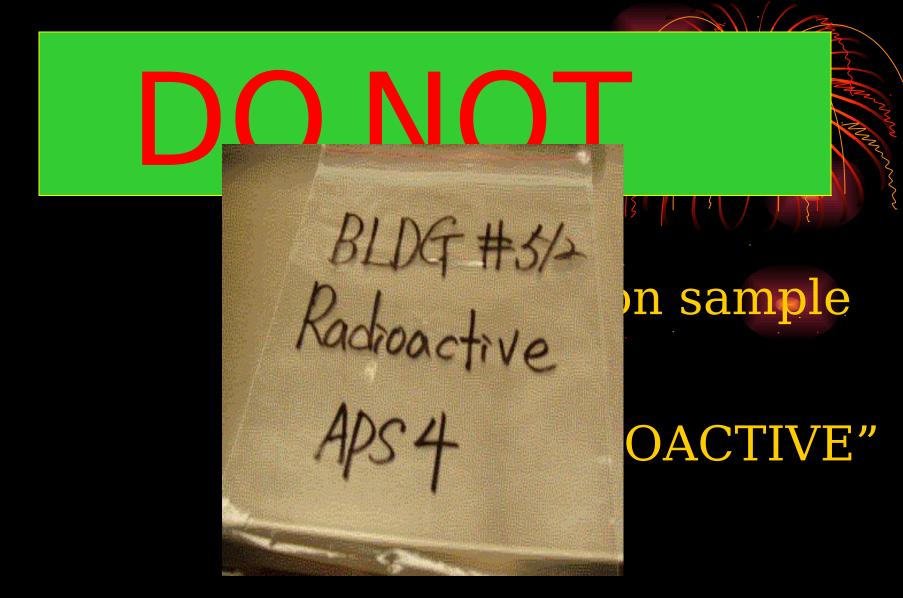
This could result in a false

DO NOT



- Separate envelope and smear
- Place Nucon smear on planchet

NUCLEONICS WILL PREP SAMPLE FOR PROCESSING



Survey smears are not required to be marked as RAM

DO NOT



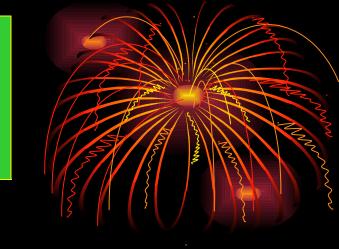
Write on the side of sample bottle

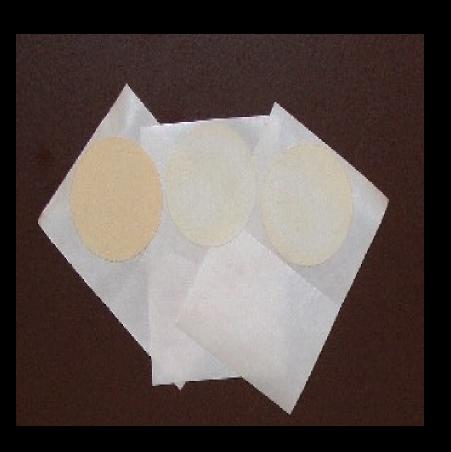
Collect excess dirt in sample bottle

Label cap too big

Dirt & Markings on side of bottle can cause a false positive result

DO NOT





Use old or discolored smears

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The discolor will result in false

Radioactive Contamination Surveys

- Radioactive contamination can not be detected or measured by our senses.
- Radioactive Contamination can only be detected and measured by surveys.
- Follow the proper guidelines for surveying to ensure an effective and compliant control program.

CONTACT YOUR RSO FOR

CIIIDANCE